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TO : Chief, Plans and Policy Staff

FROM : Deputy Chief, Plans and Policy Staff

SUBJECT: Department of Labor Round-Table Conferences

DATE: 12 October 1948

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1. [REDACTED] Liaison Branch, OCD, advises that Department of Labor, to which he is accredited, holds round table conferences on an average of three times a month.

2. Such conferences are built around individuals possessed of specialized area knowledge and information in re labor matters, and are designed to develop a comprehensive appreciation of such matters.

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3. [REDACTED] has received an invitation to arrange for attendance of a CIA person at the labor conferences.

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4. OO has indicated to [REDACTED] its inability to furnish a person for such attendance.

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5. [REDACTED] Req. Div., ORE, has ascertained that [REDACTED] Economic Group, ORE, is interested in subject conferences from the standpoint of informational potentialities. It appears, however, that he is not prepared to spend the necessary time in attendance if and when security clearance of the undertaking is secured.

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6. Labor has expressed to [REDACTED] a preference for certification of a single individual to act as observer for the entire series.

7. From an exploratory point of view, the following determinations should be made:

- (a) Is the ultimate potential value of subject conference series sufficient to justify the time expenditure involved?
- (b) Should not OO furnish the body for any exploitation deemed advisable?
- (c) Assuming I&S approval and establishment of suitable cover, can a CIA representative operate in a vacuum as an observer only and still derive value from the conferences?
- (d) Is the Labor invitation a preliminary to a quid pro quo request?

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8. I am asking [REDACTED] to arrange that his proposal be communicated in writing to AD/ORE by AD/OCD. Meanwhile I believe we should conduct further explorations and discussions in order that we may be prepared to render staff advice on the matter when appropriate.

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[REDACTED]